Attorney's Docket No.: 2834C1/303002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Steven M. Zuniga, et al.

Art Unit : 1763

Serial No.: 09/848,830

Examiner: S. MacArthur

Filed

: May 3, 2001

Title

: A CARRIER HEAD WITH A MULTILAYER RETAINING RING FOR

CHEMICAL MECHANICAL POLISHING

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed May 9, 2002, please amend the application as follows: In the specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2, as follows:

This application is a continuation application of and claims priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/090,679, filed June 3, 1998, issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,251,215.

In the claims:

Please amend claim 1, 3-5 and 13 as follows:

(Amended) A carrier head for a chemical mechanical polishing apparatus, comprising:

a rigid base;

a substrate mounting surface that is vertically movable relative to the base; and a retaining ring to maintain a substrate beneath the mounting surface during polishing, the retaining ring including

a substantially annular lower portion having a bottom surface for contacting a polishing pad during polishing, wherein the lower portion is made of a plastic, and

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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